



Discovering our history, Preserving our past, Sharing our stories.



Feeling Groovy? Join Our 2020 Benefit Event!

Creatively adapting to the recommended precautions during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Annual Benefit Committee has invented an online week of giving.

Please join us online from August 17-21, 2020!

Throughout Benefit Week, there will be:

- fun videos to watch
- a celebration of our annual award recipients:
History Maker – Nelson Electric Co.
F.T. Brown – Carole Jensen & Carol A. Phillips,
both were Hoggatt School curators
- the opportunity to bid on online auction items
- "Fund the Need"
- a 1960s trivia match
- and more!

Funds raised during the event will go to the Museum's operating fund so that we can continue to fulfill our mission: engaging the diverse public and providing unique opportunities to learn about Ames history.

So – how can you participate in this **groovy** event?

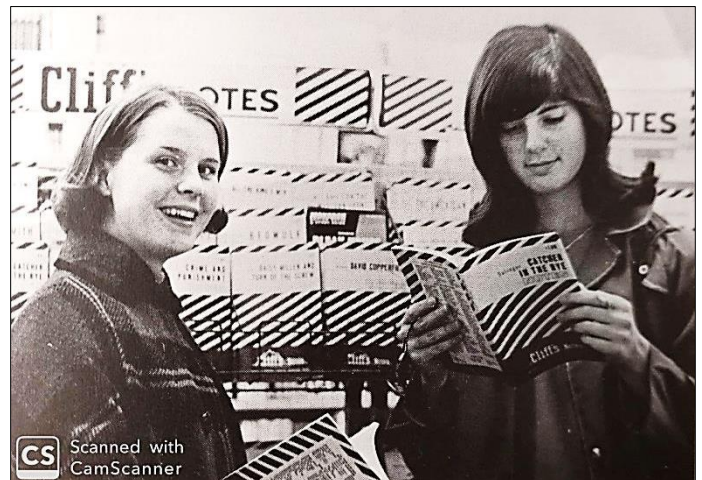
Sign up on the Museum's website to receive exclusive emails during Benefit Week with historical photos and stories, video premieres and fundraising updates. Or, send a request via email to info@ameshistory.org. (Note - You'll be able to opt out at any time.)

While we are disappointed that our members can't dress up and be seen in groovy 1960s fashions, we hope there will be plenty of good times during our Benefit Week! AHM's annual benefit event is a major annual fund-raiser for the Museum.

Very special thanks to our Event Sponsors:

GOLD Level: Ames High School Alumni Association, Availa Bank, Electric Wholesale Company, Henkel Construction Company, Northcrest Community, Prints Copy Center

SILVER Level: Harold Pike Construction Company, H.L. Munn Lumber Company, Knapp Tedesco Insurance, Beth and Craig Marrs



Two Ames High girls model hairdos of 1968 while boning up on 'Catcher in the Rye' via Cliff's Notes.

History in the Time of COVID-19

Local history resources for simple enjoyment or for academic projects are available in abundance on the Museum's website. As a matter of fact, the Covid-19 pandemic has stimulated recording and posting of a greatly expanded variety of new materials!

For example, the 2020 Lecture Series is available, as well as all the Thursday History Hours and the materials and activities mentioned on the "Covid-19" tab on the website.



The colorful **Museum Mondays** emailings will continue until the Museum re-opens (date unknown).
That website: www.ameshistory.org.

We Want Ames COVID-19 Stories

The Museum would like to preserve materials documenting how COVID-19 is affecting Ames people. After the museum reopens, consider donating materials such as those listed below. This project is for people of all ages and backgrounds. We'd like a wide perspective of the good and the bad in Ames during the COVID-19 pandemic. Examples:

- How are your daily tasks and activities different? How many people are you living with? Is everyone staying at home? Do you have any essential workers at your house?
- If you are an essential worker, what are you experiencing on a day-to-day basis?
- What do you read, hear and see about what is happening in the world?
- What are your favorite and least favorite things about social distancing? What good things have happened as a result of isolating?
- What is your set-up working/schooling from home?
- What do closed businesses, schools and playgrounds look like? What looks different from before the pandemic?
- Take photos!

\$8,500 Donation Matched!

The staff and Board were elated and relieved to see the tremendous response to our call for matching donations in June!

Like many non-profits, the COVID-19 shutdown affected the Museum's cash-flow – especially from our unrented tenant space on second floor and unplanned expenses for operating in the "new normal." This included minor renovations to our work spaces to allow for social distancing of staff and volunteers.

When a long-time supporter of local history issued a challenge to match an \$8,500 gift by July 1, we took it up to see what would happen.

And you came through in a big way!

We are so happy to report that we received \$11,190 in donations. With the anonymous match of \$8,500, the total raised was \$19,690!

**Heartfelt thanks to everyone
who donated during this appeal!**

Grants Make a Big Difference

Staff members Alex Fejfar (L) and Carly Hlubek (R) hold



a check from the Greater Iowa Credit Union for \$1,000. It will fund the updating and re-printing of our four Walking Tour brochures. (See article on page 8.)

The Museum also received a \$4,500 grant for utilities and storage rent from the Iowa Arts & Culture Emergency Relief Fund. It was provided by the Iowa Arts Council/Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Humanities' "Exploring the Human Endeavour" through the federal C.A.R.E.S. Act legislation." This grant caused an enormous sigh of relief among staff and Board!

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES**

Hoggatt Programs

After the Board and staff made the unhappy decision to cancel the summer season at Hoggatt School an alternate strategy was developed.



Instead of in-person programming, the Museum will publish several short video programs. "What's in your Lunchbox?" is

already available on the Museum's Facebook and YouTube pages. Watch for two more videos featuring a spelling bee and a tutorial on how to make butter the pioneer way!

Happy Washstand Saga

Hoggatt School curators have long wished for a more time-period-appropriate washstand for the school's dipper and wash bucket. They got their wish when the Margaret Stanton #310 Questers took on the search.



Member Becky Jordan (left) said, "Last year, I volunteered to clean Hoggatt School at the start of the season. Sharon Wirth asked if a Questers group would help find a different washstand because she was not happy with the one that was there. As it happened, at my next Questers meeting, we

received a note from the State Council that we had received a \$50 award for gaining three new members, "to be used for a preservation and restoration project of your choice." Members were enthusiastic about searching for a washstand and with the award, it was meant to be. For the next several months we all were on the lookout. Pat Carlson found several in Nebraska and we provided photos to Sharon."

Pat Carlson added, "I found the washstand at one of my favorite antique malls, Platte Valley Antique Mall, between Omaha and Lincoln on I80. I have family in Lincoln, so I stopped on one of my trips. I found several washstands that I thought might work and sent pictures. It took a couple of months before a decision

was made, but I called the Mall, explained what I was interested in and where the booth was located. The woman walked to it, told me it was still there and that everything in the booth was half off! I paid for it immediately! I made a quick trip to pick it up and got the bonus of a good BBQ lunch with my niece fairly close to the mall."

Answering Our Call



Years ago, when Stephen Sawyer was growing up in Ames and attending Northwood Elementary School, he and his class visited Hoggatt School – an event that is still a fond memory. His father saw our call for someone to jigsaw parts for a Hoggatt program and when Stephen

visited his parents this summer he was enlisted to use his skills with a jigsaw to cut wooden pieces for a climbing doll. Stephen is now an art teacher in Sioux City, IA and also creates beautiful wood furniture. The cutouts will be used for a future program on making an 1860's toy.



Board Member Changes

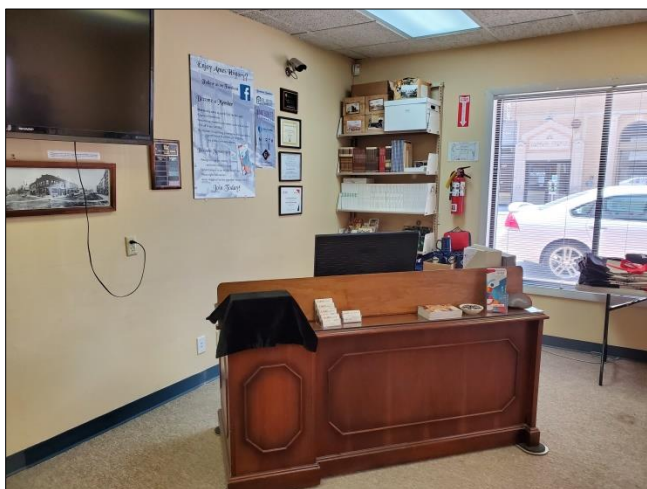
The Museum's annual meeting marks the time for Board of Directors changes. Our heartfelt thanks to outgoing members **Bonnie Norman**, **Jim Popken** and **Eric Hoiberg** for their contributions. In addition to attending board meetings, they hosted and planned events, volunteered at Hoggatt School, greeted visitors at the front desk and served on committees.

We welcome and look forward to working with new board member, **Jack Winkler**. We are pleased that **Wayne Clinton** and **Bob Bourne** have agreed to serve another term. These volunteers provide essential service and we are grateful for their commitment to the Museum. The leadership they provide keeps the organization moving forward, especially as we adjust to current challenges.

Busy Behind Closed Doors

Although the doors to the museum are closed due to the pandemic, there is plenty of activity. Staff has rearranged spaces to safely accommodate the volunteer workers who are still coming in as well as our eventual visitors. Here's what they have done:

The first-floor gallery looks largely the same, except for the front desk area. Gift shop items have been moved behind the desk and visitors will choose items from a printed catalog rather than browsing the stock. The desk is now at an angle to provide more space when visitors first enter the museum. The player piano and large Champlin's floor tile have been placed in storage temporarily to make the desk space less crowded.



The first-floor work room has been rearranged slightly to create more space between volunteer work stations. Now, there are three work stations: flatbed scanner, book scanner and newspaper research-photo matching.

The new second-floor space (formerly rented) contains two staff offices and another work room. The new work room has stations for PastPerfect museum software data entry, collections processing/inventory, and photography of collections. There is also an additional break room and storage for exhibit supplies.

In addition to all of the space shuffling, staff members have focused a lot of time during the closure on increased digital offerings such as Museum Mondays emails, 360° exhibits and social media engagement while continuing a full inventory of collections.

Staff will accommodate appointments for those who wish to use archival materials. The date for re-opening the Museum is still unknown.

Meet Intern Elena Andrews



Elena Andrews, a rising junior at Northwestern University, is participating in a virtual internship program working with our online collection this summer. Elena is majoring in History with minors in Political Science and Data Science. Elena is researching objects in our collection and summarizing their connection to Ames and their importance on a broader scale. This information

is then placed in our artifact database for everyone to explore (linked on our website). Elena is also preparing information to submit to a state-wide project, *Teaching Iowa History*. This project raises awareness of Iowa museum collections and provides a database for researchers and educators. Elena also created our weekly artifact trivia that premieres every Thursday on Instagram and writes the artifact features that appear in the emailed Museum Monday newsletters.

Polio Stories Sought

Iowa historian and lecturer, Linda McCann, is preparing to write her next Iowa history book and is seeking individuals who experienced the polio outbreak of the 1940s and 1950s.



McCann is hoping to interview those who dealt with the disease in some way – or who knows someone who did. If respondents would be willing to tell their story but prefer to remain anonymous, she can accommodate that wish. Linda has been featured in our Lecture Series, most recently

talking about the C.C.C. in Iowa and has written 22 books on Iowa history.

She says, "Please share this request with other librarians, historical societies, senior groups, etc." She may be contacted by phone in Shell Rock, IA at 319-239-7071 or by email losttownsofiowa@gmail.com.





Society Wish List

During the "Feeling Groovy" Benefit Week, August 17-21, one opportunity for giving is "Fund the Need." The Museum will list small and larger needs – such as archival boxes and various tools that donors can consider. These are outright gifts and not part of the auction. See details on page 1 about participating in Benefit Week.



Virtual Exhibit Hall is Open

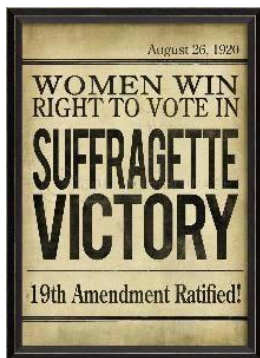
Even though the Museum at 416 Douglas is closed, there are still exhibits to see. In a first trial run, the staff has "digitally recreated" a fall 2018 exhibit, *Hometown Teams: How Sports Shaped Ames*. It was part of a larger traveling exhibit produced by the Smithsonian. Watch for a link on Museum emails.

This virtual exhibit was created using two fish-eye cameras that merge into a single 360-degree photo. A free program called RoundMe allows us to upload that image and integrate all of the exhibit panels and artifacts, as if you are standing right in the room. When you click on the circle "i" icon, it brings up exhibit details and information panels.

Hometown Teams was only on display for 6 weeks back in 2018. The staff put a lot of energy into it but because of short scheduling, not everyone saw it. Also, with the lack of sporting events to watch this summer, we thought perhaps it would fill a gap!

More 360° exhibits are in the works, possibly including, *Ames High Aiming High*, *Exploring Historic Ames* and a Hoggatt School Virtual Tour.

Hard Won, Not Done



The state-wide celebration of the Centennial of the passage of the 19th Amendment has largely been postponed to 2021 due to the pandemic. Updates on rescheduled lectures, programs and exhibits as well as many resource materials can be found at <https://19th-amendment-centennial.org>.

Remembering Doug Livy

Everyone around the Museum misses Doug Livy. One of our most cordial and steady volunteers, he slipped away from us on May 7, 2020. He and his wife, Wendy, were versatile helpers at the museum and they usually always arrived together, our own dynamic duo. He was 74. Memorials in Doug's memory totaled \$1,450.

Doug grew up in Michigan and Kansas and married Wendy Calderwood in 1968 in Traer, Iowa. They then



made their home in Ames where they owned and operated Quality Motors of Ames for 24 years, retiring in 2013. Doug was active in the local and

national Independent Auto Dealers Association and was nominated for the "Dealer of The Year" in 2009.

Staff made these comments:

Casie Vance – *"Doug was great at the front desk and always willing to jump in - even vacuuming or doing other tasks when needed. He was fun to talk to and always had good stories. He and Wendy volunteered weekly together at the front desk beginning in March 2014."*

Alex Fejfar – *"Doug (and also Wendy) was always my go-to resource for car knowledge - they knew everybody in the business. They were amazing at the front desk. I never worried a minute when they were there. They often could answer people's questions from their own knowledge. Very dedicated and always had a smile. I will miss him riding shotgun with me every year at the 4th of July parade!"*

Ames & the 1918 Flu Epidemic

Excerpted from Farwell's Brown first book 'Ames, the early years in word and picture,' 1st published in 1986

The influenza epidemic of the winter of 1918-1919 traveled like a devastating blizzard across the nation, east to west, with Army training establishments the hardest hit.

That fall, about one half of the student body at Iowa State College was made up of Student Army Training Corps recruits (S.A.T.C.). Ames experienced the full impact of that epidemic that cost the nation more lives than did the fighting during World War I.

It was called "Spanish Flu" because that is where it was thought to have originated and it spread world-wide as a result of the mass movement of Army personnel. No one had developed any degree of immunity to it.

It was a time of fear because how it was transmitted and/or how it should be treated were then unknown. It was a time of shock, as there were two casualty lists almost daily, the war dead and flu deaths. It was spoken of as a plague; fear and rumor thrived.

In Ames, within seven weeks in October and November of 1918, there were fifty-one deaths on the Iowa State campus. During the same period, eighteen deaths were reported in the town and nearly as many reports of deaths of Ames soldiers elsewhere in military service.

In response to emergency orders issued by the U.S. Department of Health, the Ames City Council took action. Mayor Graves and Ames Health Officer, Dr. Earl Rice, issued an order on October 9, 1918, closing public schools, theaters, churches and places of amusement. *"You are hereby notified that Spanish or Epidemic Influenza must be reported to the mayor and to the Secretary of the State Board of Health,"* the order continued. By October 15th all Story County schools had been closed.

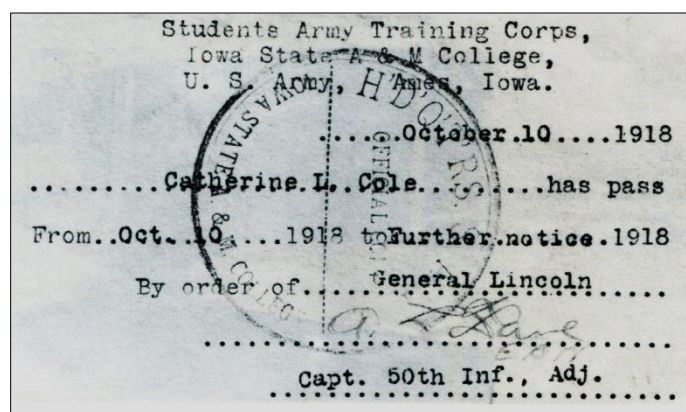
Dr. Charles Tilden, college physician, organized his staff, local Ames doctors and nurses in caring for the large number of hospitalized cases on campus. Out of about 3,000 students enrolled, 1,250 were reported hospitalized at one time. The new college hospital was taxed beyond capacity. State Gymnasium was converted into a hospital with the entire main floor lined with rows of hospital beds. The nearby Collegiate Presbyterian Church basement also became a hospital

for influenza patients. Portions of dormitories became isolation wards.



The Brooks house, owned then by the Masonic Lodge on the corner of Kellogg and 5th Street downtown, was used to care for overflow patients from Mary Greeley. Former nurses living in the community returned to active duty and five nurses came down from Webster City to help out at Mary Greeley Hospital.

General James Rush Lincoln, I.S.C. Professor of Military Tactics and Commanding Officer of the S.A.T.C. unit, issued quarantine orders on October 10th and Iowa State students and faculty were required to obtain passes to leave or to return to the campus.



Because of possible outbreaks of other diseases on campus, an order dated October 29, 1918, made all Ames business places "off limits" to S.A.T.C. students, unless staff were first vaccinated against small pox and immunized against typhoid.

Mass vaccination and immunization of students was begun. "We could not handle an outbreak of a second epidemic," General Lincoln stated.

With Ames children generally confined to their home neighborhoods, two Ames teachers, Kate Lysinger and Delia Moberly, took it upon themselves to meet every passenger train arriving at the Ames Depot.



They sought out parents arriving in response to the report of the serious condition or death of their sons on campus. The *Ames Weekly Tribune* of October 21, 1918, reported, "...they have piloted fathers and mothers from the passenger station to the morgue as well as to the places where the sons were lying sick." (*Kate Mitchell School today bears the name of Kate Lysinger Mitchell.*)

With so little knowledge of the disease, the element of fear was significant. One day the hearse used to convey bodies from the college hospital broke down and the horse-drawn wagon used to take mail from the depot to the post office was pressed into use. The sight of that wagon going down Lincoln Way with five or six body boxes on it gave rise to the rumor that the mail might become infected. A front-page story in the paper of October 16th spiked that rumor and reported that "the matter has been reviewed by the Board of Health, and conditions are found to be the best possible and no alarm should be felt."

It is said that telephone operators often wore masks at the switchboards, not knowing how the disease might be transmitted. The telephone company locally requested patrons not to call operators to inquire of the time of day. Their load of emergency calls made that service difficult. The city postponed all house-to-house meter readings during the epidemic.

Ames doctors then on the scene included Dr. Ben Budge, Dr. C. A. Aplin, Drs. David and Jennie Ghrist and Dr. H. M. Templeton, who succeeded Dr. Earl Rice as City Health Officer when Dr. Rice followed Dr. Earl Bush into the Army Medical Corps.

The epidemic began to subside in late October but continued to ebb and flow. Ames schools were re-opened on November 25th, but an influx of new S.A.T.C. student recruits was accompanied by an alarming increase in cases. Schools were again closed on December 7th.

Finally, they were allowed to open for good on December 20, 1918. The epidemic subsided and finished its course in the spring of 1919.

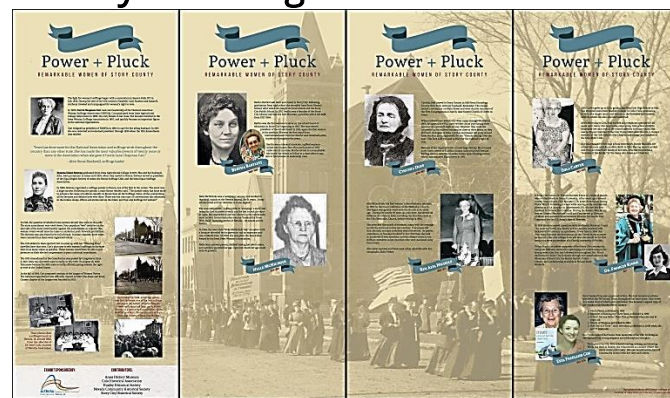
By mid-November 1918, the Spanish Flu epidemic had claimed 86,045 lives in the U.S. (*Incomplete Reports U.S. Dept. of Health*). In Iowa, there were 6,543 deaths. Probably over 90 deaths occurred that involved the Ames community, including the members of Ames families who were in the service. Multiple deaths occurred in several Ames families.

In Iowa, death reports did not become compulsory until 1921. It was believed likely that there were more flu deaths than actually reported.

In 1986, Brown wrote: Today we still have influenza outbreaks and predictions of same. We still call it by that part of the world where it is believed to have originated. But today we have "flu shots" and our general population has developed immunities. While we cannot be sure that a similar experience will never recur, we are benefited today by more medical knowledge than in 1918.

Footnote: When the Memorial Union at Iowa State opened in 1928, among the World War I Iowa State casualties listed in Gold Star Hall, were 87 deaths from disease, including the S.A.T.C. trainees who died on campus of the flu.

County Traveling Exhibit



A traveling exhibit featuring stories of Story County women has toured Story City, Huxley and Colo and will soon be in Slater and Nevada. The Ames date is unknown at this time. **Power & Pluck: Remarkable Women of Story County** ties into the 19th Amendment Centennial. It is still available for reservation and is constructed on retractable banners that fit in many types of spaces and are easy to set up and take-down. Call 515-232-2148 to reserve. *Publicity for this exhibit was funded by a grant from Altrusa.*

Ames History Museum
PO Box 821
Ames, Iowa 50010

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Join us for
FEELING GROOVY!
our Annual Benefit online
August 17-21, 2020
See page one for details!



Ames History Museum Board:

President: Sharon Wirth
Secretary: Lynette Spicer
Don Beitz, Bob Bourne, Wayne Clinton, Dan Franklin, Becky Jordan, Mary Logsdon, Ryan Riley, Jack Winkler. Monthly Board meetings are the 2nd Thursday at 6:45 pm. Members Welcome!

Vice-President: Peter Hallock

Treasurer: Ken Cameron

Museum Staff:

Collections Mgr: Carly Hlubek

Executive Director: Casie Vance

Research & Exhibits Mgr: Alex Fejfar

Emeritus Staff: Alan Spohnheimer, Margaret Vance, Dennis Wendell

The Ames History Museum is an incorporated, 501c3 not-for-profit organization whose mission is to engage our diverse public and provide unique opportunities to learn about Ames history.

Museum: 416 Douglas, Ames, IA 50010 **Hours:** Closed due to COVID-19

Mail: PO Box 821, Ames, IA 50010

Phone: 515-232-2148

E-mail: info@ameshistory.org

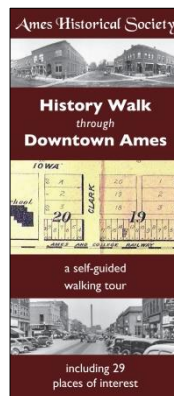
Website: www.AmesHistory.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ameshistory

Search 'Ames History Museum' on **Instagram** and **YouTube**

The **newsletter** is published four times a year for Museum members. Direct comments and questions to: Editor, PO Box 821, Ames, IA 50010 or e-mail above. Editor: Kathy Svec

Hoggatt School is located on the grounds of Meeker School at 18th and Burnett, Ames, IA. Closed for the summer due to COVID-19.



Walking Tour Brochures

With so few organized activities during the pandemic, many people are enjoying the outdoors with regular walks. To add a new dimension, download the Museum's five Walking Tour brochures and learn something about Ames history while you get your exercise! Go to www.ameshistory.org > Visit > Tours.

Is it time to renew your membership?

Renewals are due on the one-year anniversary of last year's payment. Check this newsletter's label (above your name) for the date yours is due. Memberships fund the day-to-day operations of the Museum, so we can continue to be a valued community resource. Now – pay online on our website!

Introductory - 1st year	\$15	Partner	\$250
Basic	\$30	Benefactor	\$500
Friend	\$50	Patron	\$1,000
Sustaining	\$100		

Name _____

Address _____

Ames History Museum, PO Box 821, Ames, IA 50010